

A Very Happy Christmas to All!

# MONTEREY COUNTY Labor News

Covering the Counties of Monterey and San Benito

VOL. XVI—NO. 17

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1953

WHOLE NO. 791

## SALINAS YULE PARTY SATURDAY

### Is There a Santa Claus?

The following, reprinted from the editorial page of the New York Sun, was written by the late Mr. Frank P. Church:

We take the pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

DEAR EDITOR: I am 8 years old.

Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says "If you see it in The Sun it's so."

Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

VIRGINIA O'HANLON.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a spectral age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of

truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is not Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor man can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonder there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thanks God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, then times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



**TESTIFIES—Former Social Security Administrator Arthur J. Altmeyer, subpoenaed to testify before House Ways and Means group studying operation of the security program, charged GOP members of the group with trying to absolutely destroy the program.—(LPA.)**

### IMPORTANT TO PLUMBERS

Members of Plumbers Union 62 of Monterey were advised last week by Business Manager John Grisin that the next meeting will be held on Friday night, Dec. 18, at Carpenters Hall in Monterey. The meeting has been moved up from its originally scheduled date, which falls on Christmas Day.

Local 62 will have a Christmas Party for members and their families at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at El Estero Hall, the new Bricklayers Union 16 hall, on Pearl St. in Monterey.

All members are urged to bring their children. There will be entertainment and distribution of gifts by Santa Claus. Chairman of arrangements is Lee Lirette.

If you skirt the end against the Union Label team, you'll get tossed back for a loss in wages!

### Salinas Labor Expects 3000 At Palma School Auditorium

All children in the Salinas area—whether their parents are union members or not—are invited to the annual Christmas Party sponsored by the Central Labor Council and various AFL unions at 7 o'clock Saturday night, at Palma School Auditorium, 245 Iverson St., Salinas. It's free to all kiddies.

This year's party is expected to be the largest ever staged by the AFL unions, according to General Chairman Carl Lara. Some 3000 youngsters are expected to be present to watch a vaudeville show and to receive gifts and bags of candy and fruit from Santa Claus.

While arrangements are virtually complete, the labor council and the Christmas Party Committee have a meeting on Friday night to check on any last minute details, Lara said.

Parents are asked to bring their children, and leave them at the auditorium, calling for them later, because of the limited seating space. Festivities should be over by 8:30 at the latest, it was estimated. Firemen and policemen will be on hand to watch out for the kiddies.

Music for the event will be furnished through Musicians' Union 616 by a grant from the Music Performance Trust Fund of the Recording Industry. Local talent will entertain.

The party is financed through a special ticket sale sponsored by the Labor Council. Final financial report will be made at the council meeting Friday night.

Santa Claus has promised to be present, coming as result of arrangements with the J. C. Penney Co.

Committee members in charge of various details of the party include:

Auditorium and seating—Virgil Knight and R. A. Wood.

Policemen and Firemen—A. J. Clark.

Procure and erect tree—H. B. Baldwin and Merle Martin.

Fill candy bags—Carl Jones and Janet Barber.

Tree lighting—Dial H. Miles.

Spotlight and projection—Al

Finlay Jr. and Art Reina.

Procure candy bags—Glen Wilkerson.

Arrange for entertainment—John Lewis and Jimmie Butler.

Master of ceremonies—John Lewis.

Decorate tree—Peter Greco.

Transport supplies to auditorium—Earl Choate.

Ushers—John Mattos and Robert Shinn.

Arrange for Santa Claus' visit—Jimmie Butler.

Distribute toys—John Mattos and Robert Shinn.

### Salinas Labor Council News

Following are items of business transacted by the Monterey County Central Labor Union of Salinas at its last meeting, the information supplied by Secretary A. J. Clark.

Carpenters Union 925 informed the council of an organizational campaign now underway in the Modesto area, where several picket lines have been established by building unions, and urged building craftsmen not to try to find work in the Modesto area.

Merger of Laundry Workers Union 258 and Dry Cleaners Union 258-B in Dryers & Cleaners and Laundry Workers 33 of San Jose was announced.

Condition of Wray D. ("Bill") Empe, business agent of Laborers Union 272, was reported as greatly improved and it was reported that he may be sufficiently recovered from a recent heart attack to return to work shortly after the first of the new year.

Report on the Salinas Rescue Mission was given by Janet Barber, council delegate, who announced that 1280 meals were served at the mission in November and that social security numbers are being used to check on persons applying for assistance and to keep records on persons served.

### Mont. Laborers' Party Saturday

Children of members of Laborers Union 690 of Monterey will be guests of honor at the union's Christmas Party this Saturday night at the Labor Temple, Hoffman and Lighthouse Aves., in New Monterey.

Details of the party were not available for publication. However, it was understood that there would be a number of acts of entertainment, motion pictures such as cartoons and comedies, and a visit by Santa Claus, who will distribute gifts and candy to the youngsters.

### BUILDING LAW UNDER ATTACK

Although the new Monterey County Building Code is not in effect until Jan. 1, petitions have been started in unincorporated areas near Monterey in an effort to quash the ordinance, which was adopted by county supervisors on Sept. 14.

Petition sponsors say the petitions, if signed by enough voters, will force the supervisors to rescind the building law or submit it to a countywide election. Builders and developers are opposing the uniform building code on building, plumbing and electrical installation work.

The ordinance is designed to require construction to come up to certain standards, and it affects only unincorporated areas. A county building inspector, Ed M. Carlson, former Salinas contractor, will assume his duties Jan. 1 if the law is not blocked. His assistant will be Harry Maybury of Monterey.

### Plumber Ex-B.A. In Salinas Dies

Russell Walker, business agent of Plumbers Union 403 of Salinas many years ago, passed away last week after a long illness.

Brother Walker had been a member and official of Local 503 for many years. He had been forced to retire from union activity and from his work because of illness. Funeral was last Thursday.

ATTEND your union meetings REGULARLY!

### LOOKING BACK OVER THE YEAR

Any full summary of labor's doings in this area during the past year would require a volume much bigger than this newspaper. Here, however, in brief notation, is a month-by-month summary of some of the major events and some of the sidelights.

#### August (1952)

The Salinas Central Labor Council showed its belief that not only Christmas shopping, but also Christmas planning should be done early by starting on its plans for the annual Christmas celebration. The Council asked all members of the previous year's committee, chairmaned by Randolph Fenchel, to serve again, and started on financing for the event which annually attracts some 3000 youngsters.

John ("Brickie") Crivello was continued as business agent for the AFL Fishermen in the union's election, but other officers were changed. Thomas P. Flores became

the new secretary treasurer, Michael Youlden, the new president.

Immediately after getting WSB approval of a raise to a new scale of \$2.90 an hour, Monterey Plumbers 62 announced they would go in for another 10 cents to bring the scale up to the state level.

A historic first contract was signed with the exclusive and extensive Del Monte Properties, Inc., in the Carmel area by Culinary-Bartenders 483 after a long organizational campaign. The pact is the union's standard agreement, similar to that negotiated for the Monterey area. About 100 hotel service workers, restaurant workers and barmen are covered by the Del Monte contract.

Egg workers of the area, members of Butchers 506, got WSB approval of a 3 cents per case boost for egg candler and 8 1/4 cents an hour for hourly workers.

AFL Fishermen set sail with the sardine fleet in the annual hunt for sardines, which had been virtually absent from local waters for five years previously, meanwhile continuing to negotiate for a new agreement and new price for sardines.

Laborers work both in Salinas and Monterey was reported holding up exceptionally well, but at the same time Business Agents Wray Empe in Salinas and George Jenkins in Monterey warned that there were enough "home guard" workers to man all jobs and that outsiders would be disappointed if they came looking for jobs.

A fake claim case which has (Continued on Page 10)



# Pity the Poor Bee; He Doesn't Enjoy TV

Los Angeles—You are able to see movies and TV as motion pictures because your "flicker fusion" frequency is slow. Such insects as bees, flies and shore slaters see them as a rapid procession of stills.

So reports Philip R. Ruck, U. S. Public Health Service Fellow in the University of California at Los Angeles zoology department.

Flicker fusion frequency determines how the series of individual stills on movie film appear to the viewer. The flickers are quicker than the eye in human beings and fuse into a continuous motion picture.

A fast flicker fusion frequency may keep a bee from enjoying a movie, but it has its advantages. It enables him, while in rapid flight, to see individual objects distinctly instead of as blurs. Else he might pass up a likely blossom brimming with nectar.

Another visual advantage enjoyed by bees, as well as flies and shore slaters, is that bright light

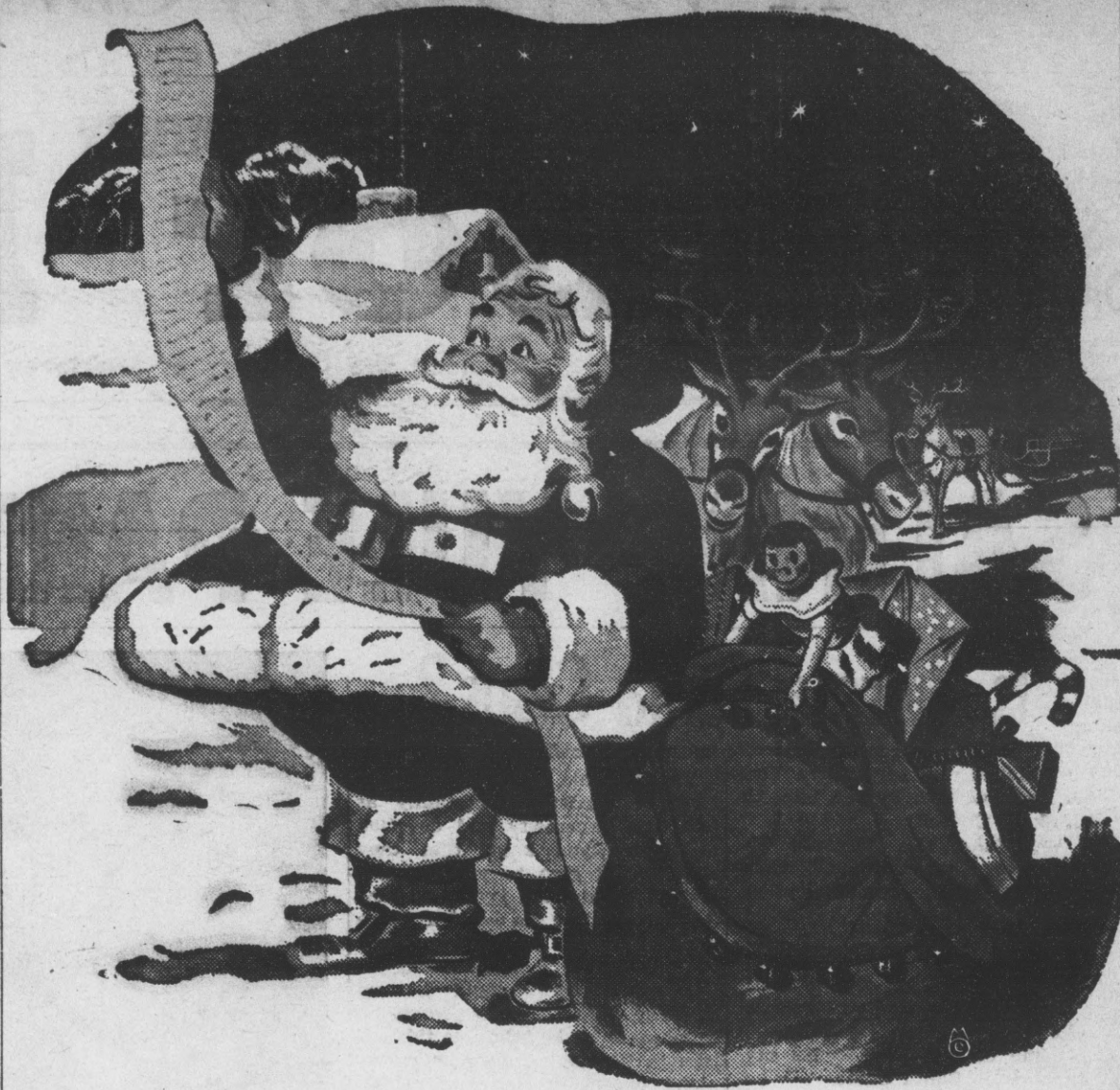
does not dazzle them. This is because their visual sense cells are not desensitized by the light to the same extent as those of human eyes, which are temporarily blinded even after the light is removed.

This incidental intelligence is from studies primarily concerned with that part of visual activity that occurs immediately after light energy is converted into electrical energy during its journey down visual pathways to the brain.

## Labor Pres., Full Time

Rock Island, Ill. (LPA)—The Tri-City Federation of Labor of this city, Moline, Ill., and Davenport, Ia., decided to make the presidency a full-time job. John H. DeYoung, serving his first term in office, therefore will relinquish all other duties Jan. 1.

Democratic unionism requires an alert, active membership—Attend your meetings.

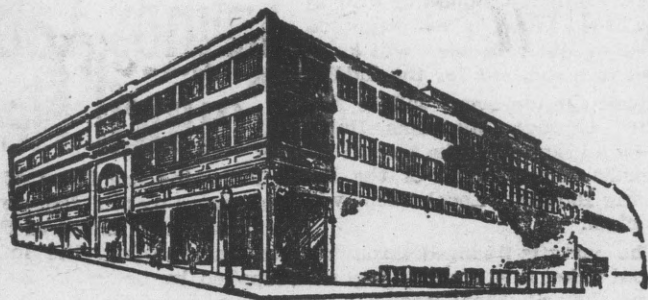


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in wishing you the best-ever

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## SAFETY BELT FOR YOUR CAR!

Los Angeles.—Fasten your safe-belts!

This may be routine procedure every time you get in your car if tests conducted on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California are heeded by car owners.

John Mathewson and Derwyn very of the Institute of Transportation and Traffic Engineering have designed a chest-type safety belt which has shown promise in a preliminary investigation of minimizing a major source of traffic injuries.

Analysis of fatalities in auto accidents shows that most injuries stem from lack of restraint of the bodies of persons involved in the accidents. About one-third of the deaths are the result of occupants being thrown through car doors forced open by crash impact. Most of the remaining deaths are caused by the head or other parts of the body striking windshields, steering wheels, dash panels, etc.

The investigation has demonstrated that the new safety belt effectively restrained a very life-size dummy, specially designed for the study, in crashes of a test car at a speed of 25 miles per hour against a barrier of telephone poles. High-speed photos of the crash showed that at no time did any part of the dummy collide with any part of the car's interior. The belt fits horizontally across the chest and can be fastened in a couple of seconds.

The mechanics of the crashing are being investigated also to determine if cars of the future could be designed so that the crushing of the forward part of the car would result in evenly distributed deceleration.



**BAKERY DRIVERS BENEFIT**—Gerald A. Walsh, secretary of New York Bakery Employers Labor Council, and Joseph A. Clark, president of Bakery Drivers 550 of the Teamsters Brotherhood, are shown seated, left to right, signing an agreement which gave the Bakery Drivers many new benefits. Watching are Martin E. Segal and Samuel Leigh, welfare plan consultants.

## Operation Patch-Up

California's safety code might very well be compared to an old steel ship whose deckhands, after they have completed one stem-to-stern sweep with chipping hammer and paint brush, have to start all over again. California's fifty-odd year old code is continually being changed, revised, improved.

Al Mailloux, the San Francisco

Building Trades Council's traditional representative in matters

relating to safety, reported this week on the latest (Nov. 30) Northern California hearing called by the Division of Industrial Safety, which is slowly working through the present code book, paragraph by paragraph.

Scaffolding was the subject of this last hearing.

It was an interesting one, for it demonstrated very clearly the necessary give and take between the theoreticians—who are professional safety engineers in the employ of the state—and the practical men, those who must defend their lives on the job against industrial hazards of all kinds.

For example, at the hearing an improvement suggested by the state's engineers was broached: wire rope on welders' scaffolding instead of manila. The engineers argued that the fire hazards on welding and burning job being excessive, wire rope would be just the thing. And at first this idea sounded practical.

But Mailloux, when he had talked the proposal over with several welders, came to the conclusion that it was fraught with dangers. Rank and file workers said that the safety engineers had apparently overlooked the possibility that the welding "stinger" might brush against the wire suspension cable; this, in their opinion, would cause the cable to break or unravel.

The hearings, as can be seen

from this example, are a matter of trial and error.

Mailloux said that the Southern California division of the DIS are now holding similar hearings and that the joint results of both groups will be codified and finally handed over to the Industrial Safety Board, appointed by the Governor.

## U.S. Plans to Sell Low-Rent Housing, Says Eberharter

Washington (LPA)—The Eisenhower Administration, which has halted the building of low-rent projects, plans to sell the units it now has, Rep. Herman P. Eberharter (D, Pa.) charged Dec. 3.

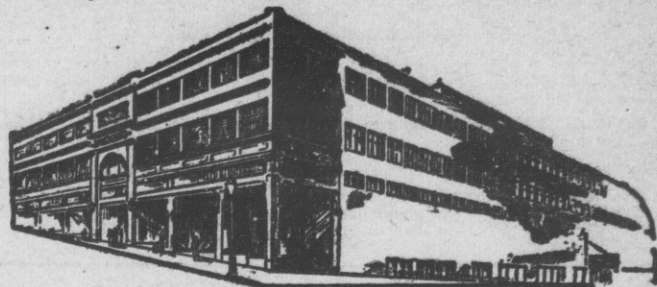
Eberharter said that Albert M. Cole, Housing and Home Finance administrator, has suggested tenants get first chance to buy the units they occupy. Eberharter pointed out that tenants who can afford to buy, or even rent, comparable housing on today's market are not in, and couldn't get in, to public housing, if their incomes are such that they could buy. "What tenants does Cole mean?" Eberharter asked.

Selling the present public housing projects to private persons or firms would drive most of the present tenants into the slums, Eberharter declared.

Eberharter declared that the National Association of Real Estate Boards "is the strongest and most influential voice in the determination of housing policies under this administration," and that "the lobbies are batting a big fat 1000 while the consumer consistently strikes out."

He said that Cole, while a member of the House from Congress, "fought public housing every step of the way," and that Cole's appointment to head federal housing was "in keeping with the approach of this administration to most of the New Deal and Fair Deal reforms—kill them with starvation appropriations and hostile direction."

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## MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

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## Elderly People and Security

The acting director of the Bureau of Old Age and Survivors Insurance, Robert Ball, estimates that about 10 million Americans will be drawing Social Security benefits in 1960, contrasted to the 3.8 million who are drawing payments now. By 1980, Ball predicts, about 18 million persons will be 65 or over and eligible to get benefits.

Those figures are all the more reason the Social Security program should not be placed on a so-called pay-as-you-go program, as advocated by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other reactionary groups. Such a system would abolish the reserve funds.

Apart from the fact that no insurance plan in the world can operate without a reserve fund, the three-fold increase in the number of elderly people within about seven years makes it imperative that the reserves be left intact and that the increases in contributions to the Social Security program by employers and employees take effect as scheduled.

The surest way to wreck Social Security and leave 10 to 18 million older people destitute in years to come is to put the program on the basis proposed by the Chamber of Commerce.

## Underprivileged in Asia

Vice President Richard Nixon has made the discovery, he says, that one of the basic things that Asians want is enough food to eat, enough clothes to wear and a roof over their heads. He says that the Communists have made progress in Asia by promising to fulfill such needs.

This is discovery by postponement. More than a year and a half ago, Nixon voted in the Senate to weaken the Mutual Security Act, whereby America aids its weaker allies in their fight against Communism. And shortly before the Korean war began—on Jan. 19, 1950—he voted in the House against sending the Korean people \$100 million to buy food and clothing and to build up their industry. (The House turned down the proposal by one vote.)

Senator McCarthy and Senator Jenner both voted in 1949 to cut \$200 million in foreign military aid—including \$27.6 million for Korea, the Philippines and Iran; in 1950 to cut 10 per cent from the Point 4 program which helps build up underdeveloped countries; and in 1952 to slash economic aid to our friends abroad.

Representative Velde voted in 1950, only five months before the Korean war started, against providing the Republic of Korea with \$60 million in economic assistance; in 1950 to abolish the Point 4 program; in 1952 to reduce Asiatic economic aid funds by 10 per cent; and, again in 1952, against the Mutual Security Act.

This is the record. File it away. It may come handy.

## Meat Beefs

The price received by livestock raisers for cattle has dropped from \$19.70 per hundred pounds to \$14.70 during the first nine months of the Eisenhower Administration. And all the time Secretary of Agriculture Benson kept saying it wasn't so.

The amazing thing is that the housewife has had to pay almost as much—and in some cases, more—for a pound of meat at the butcher shop as she did before the decline.

Did someone say something about a mess in Washington?



WRAY D. EMPIE

Bus. Agt. Laborers Union 272,  
Monterey

Most people today know that before they can receive Social Security benefits they must file an application with a Social Security field office. They also know that if they cannot visit the field office for one reason or another, they can telephone or write to the office and make arrangements to meet a representative at some other point at a convenient time. However, some persons who are confined to their homes by illness or infirmity do not realize the Social Security field office which serves their community is prepared to meet such a situation. This service is provided in order that such persons may not lose benefits through failure to file a claims application on time. Should you be eligible for old-age and survivors insurance benefits but are physically unable to leave your home to file your application, you should get in touch with the nearest Social Security field office, either by mail or telephone, and explain the circumstances. That office will arrange for a representative to call at your home and assist you in filing your claims application.

For further information about these or any other points regarding your Social Security, get in touch with the Social Security field office at the address below.

Your Security Office is at 196 San  
Augustine St., San Jose 10. Phone  
CYpress 2-2480.

Montreal (LPA)—The first Canadian contract for wire services brought American Newspaper Guild members employed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation a 14 per cent average pay boost.

CANADA GUILD PACT



COMING UP—Coleen Gray, one of Hollywood's busiest actresses, finds soft spot to rest between assignments.—(LPA.)

## The Flying Slaves...

## Big Calif. Growers Deal With West Indies Govt For Low-Pay Workers!

(State Fed. Release)

The Big Grower plot to exploit British West Indian borers for seasonal farm work in California neared completion last week as the Ventura County Citrus Growers Association prepared to use imported workers in Kern, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Tulare and Ventura counties.

Despite protests by American labor, the citrus group plans to bring West Indians to all areas where members of the association have land holdings.

While the actual contract between southern California citrus growers and the British West Indies governments has not yet been publicized, the following facts were evident this week:

1. Money will be deducted from West Indian workers' pay checks to pay for their air transportation to this country. Transportation money will be advanced by the British West Indies government and the California growers, but will be deducted later from pay checks.

2. If British West Indian workers find that labor conditions have been seriously misrepresented and wish to return home, they must pay for all of the return transportation.

3. If British West Indian work-

ers are held incompetent, they be returned home ostensibly at expense of the British West Indian government. However, money for the return trip will taken from funds accumulated through a regular 15 per cent deduction taken from their pay the home government.

4. The British West Indian workers will get a guarantee of \$6.00 for a two-week period. Under the present agreement between United States and Mexico, contract workers are guaranteed pay 75 percent of their work time in America.

Meanwhile the grower scheduled heavy fire from AFL for a front page editorial in publication of the Southern California Teamsters Joint Council charged that "the purpose (of importing West Indians) is to better terms with Mexico on few legally imported workers coming in under contract."

## JOKES, Etc.

The preacher came along and wrote upon the signboard:

"I pray for all."

The lawyer wrote underneath:

"I plead for all."

The doctor added: "I prescribe for all."

The plain citizen wrote: "I pay for all."

The lady of the house summoned a TV serviceman to fix the set. Spreading out his tools, the repairman inquired, "What seems to be the trouble?"

Replied the little woman, "Well, for one thing, all the programs are lousy."

When the class was asked if anyone could define the word "budget" one second grade moppet volunteered: "A budget is when parents get mad and won't speak to each other."

A farmer wished to insure his barn and a few stacks.

"What facilities have you in the village," asked the insurance man, "for extinguishing a fire?"

The farmer pondered a little while. Finally he answered, "Well, sometimes it rains."

In the early days of motoring, narrow highways would barely allow two cars to pass without colliding. Now we're getting super highways where six or seven can collide at one time.

Be careful what you start while trying to stop something.

"The man who gives way to he knows he is in the wrong," a magistrate, "is wise. The who gives way when he knows is in the right is merely mar-

Widow, writing to an insurance company: "You have asked me to fill out so many proofs of claim and I have had so much trouble getting my money that I sometimes wish my husband had died."

Many girls are attracted to simpler things of life: men.

## Here's the Dop

I DIDN'T WANNA BE CALLED CHICKEN!



NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

## "UNION MAID"—A Serial Story



by Stan Jennings



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A.F. of L.

**Local 890**

General Teamsters, Warehousemen and Helpers' Union

274 E. Alisal Street, Salinas

**REGULAR MEETING**—We were happy to see the fine turnout for the general membership meeting December 9 at Moose Hall. We were honored by a visit from our International Representative, George Mock, and our old friend, Pete Andrade who is now Director of Western Cannery Council. Pete stated that he had traveled several thousand miles and spoke briefly on the tremendous job ahead to stabilize wages and conditions in canning and frozen food industry.

**DUES**—At this meeting the matter of an increase in dues was discussed. The increase is necessary in order that we be in conformity with our International Constitution, but mainly to build up our treasury so that we will have financial backing should we get into a battle with an employer. Therefore, **EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 1954, DUES ARE INCREASED 50c PER MONTH.** Dues for all general drivers and warehousemen are \$4.00 per month. Members employed in canneries, dehydration plants and frozen food plants will pay \$3.50 per month.

**NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS** are vice president, Richard Pfeiffer, construction driver; three-year trustee, Artie Martin, construction driver; one-year trustee, Art Bernard, construction and line driver. In addition to the newly elected officers, your executive board is composed of the following: President John Sullivan, produce driver; Secretary-Treasurer William G. Kenyon, Recording Secretary Ed Pederson, creamery employee; Trustee Earl Montgomery. Business agents appointed by the executive board are Glen Wilkerson, Ray Burditt and Irvin Duncan.

Business Agent Burditt has been assigned to work with Local 898 in the Imperial Valley for a few weeks, to assist in organizational work in that area.

**TURKEY WINNERS** at the regular meeting were: Emma Jo Denison, A. D. McNerlin, Lloyd Hall, C. M. Horton, Fred Adams, Charles Bighello, Joe Avila, Elmer Watson, Ramona Armenta, Richard Silva, Jane Woodson and Ralph Jordan. Margaret Aikins was the lucky winner of the jackpot award.

**WELFARE PAYMENTS** have been made during the month of December to Edward Branson, Thomas Blackwell, Herschel Cooper, Mark Casper, Domingo Caballo, Martin Hardy, Farrell Lawrence, Karl Larsen, Charles Pierce, John Perez, John Silveira, Emile Verdier, Joseph Colletto, William Frisch, Otto Boatman, Jesus Barragan and Raymond Restani.

**BLOOD DONORS WANTED**

We are very sorry to hear of the very serious illness of Jack Irelan, Sunlite Bakery driver, who is in a local hospital. Jack has required many pints of blood from the local blood bank and we appeal to all members to help us replace it. You may either leave your name at the union office or go to the blood bank the first Monday in January and stipulate that you wish your donation to replace blood used by Jack Irelan. Those who were good enough to donate in December were Ed Moe, Jack Mochel, David Fox and Russell Abbott. Thanks, fellows.

**San Francisco Food Prices Again Rise**

San Francisco food prices averaged slightly higher in mid-October than a month earlier, according to Max D. Kossoris, western regional director of the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. The rise of 0.3 per cent brought the Bureau's index of food prices to 114.4, the highest point reached since last December, and 1.7 per cent above the index of October 1952.

The major reason for the higher price average was an increase of 3.8 per cent in the fruits and vegetables group, bringing this index 15.1 per cent above its year-ago level. Higher prices were recorded for bananas, oranges, lettuce, potatoes, onions, celery and tomatoes. The canned and frozen varieties, on the other hand, showed little change.

**NEW ATTEMPTS TO CURB CHILD LABOR LAW HIT**

**Hillsboro, Tex.**—The Hill County Farm Bureau is trying to get the Labor Department to relax provisions of the child labor law so that Mexican children under the age of 16 may pick cotton during school hours.

The farm bureau said that Mexican migrant children don't have time to adjust to school because they often do not speak English and because their parents move frequently during the cotton harvesting season.

The National Child Labor Committee, however, pointed out that the "Mexican" children to whom the bureau refers actually are members of Spanish-speaking American families who live in the Southwest. They have little chance to learn English, the committee said, because crop-picking forces them frequently to miss school.

Testimony before the 1952 Senate Labor Subcommittee on Migrant Labor revealed that these children for the most part are receiving even less education than their poorly-educated parents. Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D., Minn.), subcommittee chairman, termed the testimony "shocking" and a "mockery" of the American dream that every child shall have an opportunity to do even better than his parents.

The Hill County resolution was sent to Sen. Lyndon Johnson (D., Tex.), with the request that he present it to the Department of Labor and urge that it be given prompt attention. Eight bills aimed at similarly weakening agricultural child labor provisions now are pending before Congress.

One of the most vital activities of the March of Dimes is to recruit emergency medical help to meet the threat of epidemics. In 1953, the organization sent 573 nurses, 99 physical therapists and three doctors into stricken areas.

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# SALINAS—Home of California Rodeo

## 'Wetbacks' Reach Peak, But Growers Seek New Victims

Los Angeles (LPA)—Not content with illegal "wetback" labor being smuggled in from Mexico at an all-time record high rate, Southern California citrus fruit producers are trying to negotiate the importation of labor from the West Indies.

Their purpose is to get better terms from Mexico on the few legally-imported workers now coming in under a contract that will

expire Dec. 31. The legal importees are supposed to be paid "prevailing wages" to prevent depressing the living standards of local workers, but those "prevailing wages" have proved to be just about whatever the owners feel like paying, since they can get illegal help at greatly depressed rates.

A year ago the operators talked of importing Japanese, Filipino and Hawaiian workers, but nothing came of it, and they renewed their pact with Mexico.

About 200,000 Mexicans are imported legally each year for farm work, but an estimated 2,000,000 cross over the border illegally, less than half of whom are captured and returned, only to come back over the border again. Congress, while rigidly restricting immigration from Europe and other parts of the world, barring even the victims of Red persecution, has cut the heart from the funds of the U. S. Immigration Service in the Southwest, so that now there are only 750 men on

the patrol force in this area.

Since there is no law to prevent the hiring of "wetbacks," they are compelled to work for whatever they can get, for fear of being deported if they complain. This depresses wages generally, below the point at which local workers can survive.

Recently federal courts have been sentencing the "wetbacks" to prison instead of just shipping them back, but nothing is done about the operators who hire them to work on the citrus and cotton plantations. Also, the wetbacks have been attacked and robbed by juvenile gangs from prominent Southwest families, who know their victims have no protection under the law. Since the wetbacks can't show themselves in public, peddlers go to them and sell them their bread and other necessities at exorbitant prices.

For years, organized labor has fought for better laws controlling smuggling on the southern border and for enough in appropriations to create a patrol force of realistic size, but the influence of the big operators has prevailed in Congress.

Only two employer organizations have gone on record as opposing the hiring of the illegal immigrants. They are the Arizona Cotton Growers Association and the Vegetable Growers Association of Arizona. The former has a wage of \$3 a hundred pounds for cotton picking, compared with \$2 elsewhere and \$1 in Mexico—yet even in part of its area, in Cochise County on the Mexican border, its rate is only \$2.05, because that is the "prevailing wage," due to the Mexican influx.

## Rails, Oil Get Big Share of New Fast Tax Writeoffs

Washington (LPA)—Uncle Sam handed out more tax favors in the two weeks ended Nov. 4, with the lion's share going to railroads and the oil industry.

The Office of Defense Mobilization granted 160 "certificates of necessity" permitting the favored ones to write off new or expanded facilities in five years instead of the usual 25 to 30 years, at enormous tax savings. The total involved is \$234.7 million. The railroad's share was \$74 million of that, the oil firms \$42.9 million, and two airlines \$23.5 million.

The latest batch brought to \$28.7 billion the total proposed value of the facilities on which Uncle Sam has granted quick tax writeoffs in various proportions.

Largest certificate went to the New England Steel Development Corp., for 65 per cent on \$20.5 million of facilities. The railroads favored were: Illinois Central, on facilities valued at \$16.4 million; Southern Railway \$14.3 million; Central of Georgia \$6.2 million; Erie \$6.9 million; Santa Fe \$14 million; B. & O. \$1.4 million; Rock Island \$1.9 million; Wabash \$1.4 million; C. & O. \$2.3 million; Allegheny and Southern \$1.3 million.

Esso Standard of Louisiana came in for \$17.8 million of facilities; Texas Co. \$12.2 million; Gulf Refining \$5.6 million; Bay Refining \$2.8 million; California Oil \$1.6 million; Pan American Southern \$2.9 million.

Eastern Airlines got aboard the tax gravy train for \$11.3 million and Delta Air Lines for \$12.2 million.

Others included Western Hemisphere Corp. \$12.5 million; Allied Chemical & Dye \$7.7 million; Ohio Power \$4 million; Republic Steel \$2.2 million; U. S. Steel \$4.5 million.

An estimated 35,000 persons contracted polio in 1953. This was well below the 1952 record of 57,000 cases, but it was still the sixth straight year of high polio incidence. Four out of five needed March of Dimes help.

## TEACHER'S NOTEBOOK

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS  
LOCAL 1020  
MONTEREY COUNTY

### MORE TEACHER UNIONS NEEDED IN MONTEREY BAY AREA

#### 1. Labor Union Help Important in School Election

Recently a school bond issue was voted upon favorably by a large majority in Salinas at about the same time that another was badly defeated in Monterey. There is no doubt various reasons for the different votes in the two neighboring communities but some persons believe the contrasting results are in part because in Salinas Teachers Union Local 1020 is represented in the Central Labor Union whereas in Monterey there is no such representative.

Labor unions are the best friends of the schools and in no community should teachers ignore the power of the unions—which often have enough votes among their members to carry community elections in which they are sufficiently interested.

This is a matter that teachers of Santa Cruz and Watsonville should also consider; in both of these communities the schools are beset with financial and other problems in which it would be well to get as much sympathetic interest as possible on the part of organized labor.

#### 2. New Locals Needed for United Action

Another reason why Monterey Bay Area teachers need more locals is that the practise among school administrators is to immediately contact each other to consider a common stand whenever there is an important request from teachers involving pay or working conditions. Whenever the teachers ask for something that is "out of line" with other communities the school administrators are inclined to be against it. There is therefore a need among teachers

to plan united action in more than one community in order to improve conditions in all.

Common efforts on the part of San Francisco Bay Area teacher unions are now being developed in "workshops" where consultations are held and plans made involving common problems. One of these workshops was just held at Redwood City and was attended by representatives of most of the ten locals around San Francisco Bay.

#### 3. Organizer Snow Coming to Monterey Bay Area

At present AFT 1020 has most, but not all, of its members in Salinas. Some years ago there was an active AFT local in Monterey and one of its members, Wayne Edwards, served as Secretary of the Monterey Central Labor Council for ten years. The old Monterey local will be revived at any time that the teachers of Monterey demonstrate interest in doing so.

Dr. Tend Snow, organizer for the American Federation of Teachers, is expected in the Monterey Bay Area within the next month to investigate prospects for organizing new teacher unions in this locality.

—FRED CLAYSON

### WHEEL OF MISFORTUNE

Around and around the wheel of fortune goes and where it stops nobody knows. That saying was originated, undoubtedly, by someone reflecting on the chances of life. There's another wheel, however, that has a great deal to do with life itself; it's the steering wheel on your automobile. Drive carefully so that the steering wheel doesn't become your wheel of misfortune.



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## SALINAS

### Bread and Butter Facts—

## Curtis Deft at Avoiding Realities of Social Security

By LANE KIRKLAND

That mess of pottage that Congressman Carl Curtis (R., Nebr.) is brewing, with his \$100,000 subcommittee "study" of our Social Security system, has reached the point where a pattern, as well as a purpose, can be discerned. Most of the ingredients have been added and their nature is apparent.

This particular recipe for reaction is compounded of two parts prejudice, one part loaded questions and coached witnesses, two parts trivia, and three parts baloney—mix well and serve behind a smokescreen of spy stories.

A review of the subcommittee's activities to date may help to provide the background needed for a sound judgment as to the quality of the product that Curtis is preparing to offer the people in exchange for their Social Security rights. Those activities have at least had the virtue of consistency. Beginning with the selection of a staff, Curtis has pursued a course well calculated to find the shortest route from a false assumption to a preconceived conclusion, and to avoid those realities which argue in favor of the present Social Security system.

#### QUALIFICATIONS UNKNOWN

After denying the Democratic minority and representation on the subcommittee staff, Curtis proceeded to appoint one Karl Schlotterbeck to the key post of staff director. Schlotterbeck achieved some small notoriety a few years ago as the coauthor of a tawdry political tract which parroted certain views of Curtis in opposition to the principle of social insurance and in favor of its replacement by a low-level "subsistence" dole to the needy. Any other qualifications he may have for this responsible position are not known. The rest of the staff members are of a like complexion, bearing the Chamber of Commerce seal of approval.

Criticism of these staffing arrangements seems to have made Chairman Curtis somewhat touchy and defensive on the subject. Operating, apparently, on the theory that a pretty label will sell shoddy goods, he has made a great point, in recent statements, of describing his staff as "objective," "unbiased"

and "open-minded."

He may be partly right—its members are certainly not guilty of any bias in favor of Social Security. Since a position in favor of the system is about the only one that Curtis would consider "biased" the objectivity of his aids is established—in Curtis' own peculiar lexicon—as a simple matter of definition.

One of the Curtis group's first acts was a form letter to all members of Congress asking them to submit copies of letters from their mail containing miscellaneous peevish and gripes against the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance program. A representative sample or cross-section of Social Security mail was not sought, nor were letters favorable to the program solicited. In other words, the voice of the grass roots was to speak only the words that Curtis and his crew were anxious to hear.

#### ESTABLISHED PATTERN

This established the basic pattern of procedure which Curtis has followed throughout the inquiry. Outside of the Chamber of Commerce—which is quite thoroughly represented on the subcommittee's staff and which has enjoyed the services of Curtis as the chief attraction at its recent "regional conferences" for the promotion of its own scheme against the Social Security program—only one private organization has been given the opportunity to submit its views. This was an outfit known as the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana.

The testimony of this group was confined largely to an expression of the view that the state of Louisiana, under the stimulus of federal grants in aid, had become too openhanded in the payment of relief allowances to the needy. The opinion was advanced that family assistance benefits of \$50 a month tended to encourage idleness, malingering, disability and desertion because some working people in Louisiana live on less than that.

This conclusion was presented, not as a suggestion that the wages and living conditions of such individuals might be too low, but that relief payments were probably too generous. No facts, only second-hand opinions, were offered in support of this interesting point of view.

Organizations such as the American Federation of Labor, representing the millions of individuals most directly affected by the Social Security program and having the greatest stake in it, have not been invited or permitted to present their views to the subcommittee. The American Federation of Labor submitted to Chairman Curtis a formal request to be heard about three months ago. It has yet to receive even the common courtesy of a reply.

## Farm Group Bows to NAM

(AFL Release)

Tampa, Fla.—New evidence that American Farm Bureau Federation leaders follow the "line" of the National Association of Manufacturers was offered at the convention of the Florida Farm Bureau Federation.

Over protests from many individual delegates, the convention adopted an eight-point antiunion program. It called for a ban on industry-wide bargaining, destruction of many existing labor safeguards, new restrictions on picketing, and other curbs on organized labor.

Approved of the labor resolution ignored warnings by W. H. Welch of Dixie County that workers are the farmers' best customers and that the antiunion stand "played into the hands of forces" which seek for their own ends to keep farmers and workers "at each other's throats."

## DRUNK DRIVERS WILL GO TO JAIL!

Sacramento—"Every drunk driver we find is going right to jail!"

This warning was issued by California Highway Patrol Commissioner B. R. Caldwell at the conclusion of a conference held here with commanders of the Patrol's three geographical zones.

Plans were discussed for the most effective deployment of uniformed personnel during the Christmas and New Year's holidays which are barely two weeks away.

"Since Christmas and New Year's both fall on Friday and many parties will start as early as noon Thursday the week-ends will be extra long," Caldwell observed.

"Unfortunately it means the danger will be greater as many people will attempt long trips and others will attempt to drive after drinking. This combination can lead to disaster. One sure way to prevent much of this danger is to take the suspected drunken drivers out of circulation, and this we are going to do," he declared.

Organized traffic checks will be carried out at various strategic locations throughout the state during the holiday season.

"These spot checks will be under the jurisdiction of the commanding officers in the various areas and, beside apprehending the drunks, are intended to deter potential violators from breaking the law," Caldwell explained.

#### UNIONS AID CHEST

St. Louis (LPA)—Last year members of the AFL Teamsters employed at the Western Auto Supply Co. gave \$417 to the Community Chest. This year Edwin D. Dorsey, the local's secretary-treasurer, made a personal appeal at a mass meeting. The employees pledged \$1379—an increase of 332 per cent.

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## Unionists Prove Good Neighbors In Aiding Widow

Omaha, Neb. (LPA)—William Worley, his wife and five children were living in a shack while Worley was building his home in spare time. He was struck and killed by lightning. Unionists immediately came to the family's aid.

AFL Electrical Workers finished the wiring, with material furnished by contractors. Bricklayers, laborers, carpenters, sheet metal workers and others got busy. A sheet metal firm supplied a gas furnace. And the Building Trades Council raised over \$700 and presented it to the widow.

Hear Frank Edwards!



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## Governor Proclaims "Bill of Rights Week" for Calif.

(State Fed. Release)

California's Governor Goodwin J. Knight last week issued a Bill of Rights Proclamation which declared that constitutional freedoms are of particular importance today as the U.S. seeks to sustain the essential liberties of mankind in a world threatened by forces of tyranny and oppression.

The proclamation was issued in response to a request by the State Federation of Labor that the chief executive acknowledge the need for respect of the Bill of Rights amid growing national tensions.

The state AFL plea was part of a united AFL program launched by President George Meany in which governors of the 48 states were asked to direct public attention to Bill of Rights Week, December 9-15.

Governor Knight's Proclamation follows in full:

December 15, 1953, will be the 162nd anniversary of the adoption of the first 10 Amendments to the Federal Constitution, generally known as the Bill of Rights.

The Bill of Rights guarantees to every American certain fundamental rights, and at the same time imposes upon all of us the obligation to defend and preserve the invaluable privileges guaranteed therein to all citizens, regardless of race or creed.

This most important addition to our basic law has given strength to our Nation throughout its history, and the principles it established are of particular importance today when we are seeking to sustain the essential liberties of mankind in a world seriously threatened by forces of tyranny and oppression.

Believing these principles essential to the orderly conduct of our free society and nation, I, Goodwin J. Knight, Governor of California, do hereby proclaim the period December 9-15, 1953, as **BILL OF RIGHTS WEEK** in California, and I urge all Californians to familiarize themselves with the Bill of Rights and support to the fullest possible extent the basic freedoms it guarantees to all Americans.

In Washington, D.C., Meany released a "Bill of Rights" statement which pointed out that the AFL has known at first hand the "evils of hysteria and violent opposition."

However, the AFL chief also observed that the existence of a free trade union movement in America is "proof positive" that human rights are respected in the nation.

### RETIRING CARRIER HONORED

Mt. Vernon, N.Y. (LPA) — Herbert Gebhardt, president of AFL Letter Carriers Branch 387, shortly will retire as a letter carrier and as secretary of the union's New York State Association. But his fellow members evidently expect him to keep on writing. They presented him with a typewriter and a steel table and chair.



## "Organized for Politics"

# AMA Health Plan Policies Blasted in Doctor's Book

In a recently published book, a leading American doctor courageously attacks the policies of the American Medical Association and strongly advocates comprehensive medical service and group medical practice in health insurance plans.

This is the kind of plan for which unions are striving and which a few have already established either by themselves or in cooperation with other community groups.

Entitled "Doctors, People, and Government," the book was written by Dr. James Howard Means, for 28 years professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and chief of the medical service at the Massachusetts General Hospital. He retired two years ago.

Dr. Means declares that commercial insurance company plans and Blue Shield plans, supported by the state and county medical associations and the AMA, do not offer what the American people most need from health insurance plans.

What the people need, he said, are the medical services of general physicians and specialists. Such services will prevent disease as well as care for it, and therefore will reduce wage losses due to sickness and the high costs of hospitalized illnesses, which can wreck a family budget.

The fee-for-service payment which the AMA is desperately trying to preserve is scientifically indefensible, Dr. Means declares, "because it makes little if any provision for preventive medicine and because it really makes the patient reluctant to call the doctor even when really ill."

Dr. Means has studied and par-

ticipated in group medical practice. He believes that doctors in group practice will do better work and that the personal relationship with the patient will not be lost. He states further that a physician on salary will normally devote himself unreservedly to the patient's interest without ulterior financial considerations.

In an apparent reference to the AMA, he adds, "the doctors seemingly are all for organization when it comes to politics, but they are often against it when it comes to integrating the patient's care."

As a teacher of medical students for many years, Dr. Means wants medical schools to train doctors who will understand the social and economic problems of the people as well as medical subjects.

## A Tear for The Big Boys

New York (LPA)—The average high ranking business executive did little more than hold his own in compensation during 1952, the American Management Association reported, after analyzing payments to about 15,000 executives in 1868 companies.

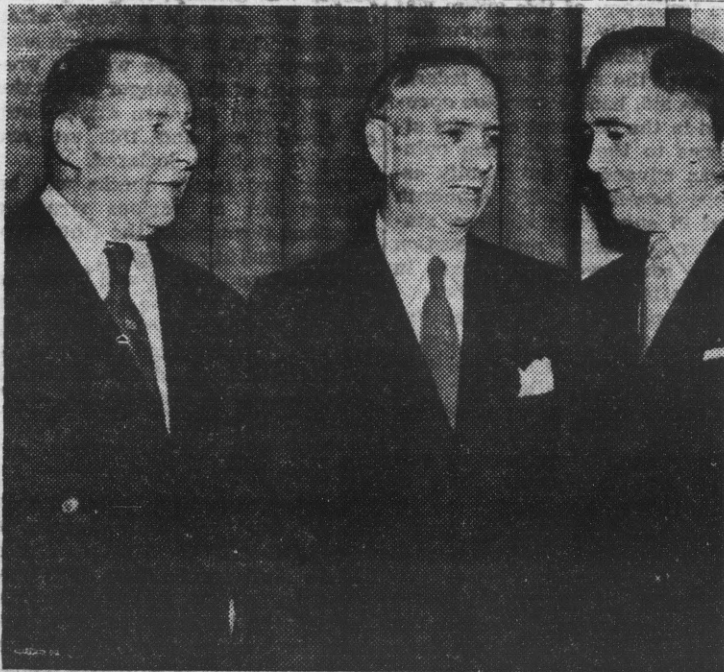
Compensation in 1952 for top level lads increased less than 1 percent, said AMA, while average weekly earnings of production workers were 7.4 percent above 1951, not including "fringe" benefits.

But detailed study of the analysis shows no cause for weeping. Compensation of executives in 1950 jumped 10.3 percent over 1949; and in 1951 it jumped 5.4 percent over 1950. Salaries, as distinct from total compensation, were up less than 4 percent, while the 1951 figure was 7 percent. Bonuses went down by 11.7 percent. Company contributions to retirement funds of executives dropped 3 percent—but in 1951 they were 15 percent of the total.

And the survey showed that bonus payments equal 43.6 percent of salary and retirement contributions were equal to 12 percent. Which means that an executive getting a salary of \$100,000 also gets \$43,600 in bonus, and \$13,000 in contribution to retirement funds—a total take of \$156,600.

The study covered firms with sales of less than \$2 million to more than \$1 billion, and compensation up to July 1953 for firms whose fiscal years ended then.

Your obligation to your union doesn't end with the payment of dues. Attend meetings and take part in union affairs!



CHICAGO HONORS SCHOLAR—Chicago Federation of Labor sponsored a welcoming dinner for Dr. Benjamin C. Willis, center, new superintendent of Chicago schools. On the right is Thomas J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the Milk Drivers and member of the board of education. At left is Wm. A. Lee, president of the federation.









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# LOOKING BACK OVER THE YEAR

(Continued from Page One)

since become one of the biggest on the books in California was filed in mid-month by the AFL Agricultural Workers on behalf of Salinas Valley carrot tiers, seeking repayment of illegal deductions for wire "twistems" used to tie up the bunches. The twistems have cost the workers as much as \$3 a week, and to add insult to injury, they carry the growers' name and advertising.

Mylo Stewart Emberson, 21-year-old member of Salinas Carpenters 925, was killed when a motorcycle he was riding went out of control and crashed into a tree.

Strictly a union-made romance was the wedding of Roy Humbracht, Monterey Fish Cannery Workers secretary, and Yvonne Cerchi, member of the union.

## September

Heavy catches of local anchovies were reported giving a shot in the arm to fish cannery operations during a lull in the fishing for tuna. Two canneries also were set to run a pack of frozen tuna imported from Peru.

Aid of Monterey labor was being sought in promoting the region's No. 1 industry, the tourist trade. A letter from the Monterey Special Events Committee, extending this invitation, was read to the meeting of the Monterey Peninsula Central Labor Council and taken under advisement by the delegates.

Salinas Plumbers Bus. Mgr. E. R. Arbuckle announced plans for a "utility contract" covering maintenance and construction work in the oil fields of the central coast valleys. This would be the first special contract for oil fields only in the area.

Two Monterey unions reported wage gains negotiated — Sugar Workers 16016 signed a contract with pay increases of 7 to 12 cents an hour and vacation, pension and other improvements; Electricians 243 negotiated an oil fields pact including a welfare plan, subsistence pay, etc.

Monterey Laborers knew for certain that some of the Brothers or visitors had second or third helpings of that tasty barbecue served at Local 690's big Labor Day outing. It was simple arithmetic—attendance was clocked at 1300 persons, and there were 1500 portions of barbecued steak, yet the meat ran out completely late in the afternoon.

A special Political Committee to direct labor's campaign in behalf of its endorsed candidates was appointed by the Monterey Central Labor Council. The endorsed candidates were Will Hayes for U.S. Congress and James Arnett for state senator. Named to the committee were Council Pres. Nels Pederson, Sec. Royal E. Hallmark, Lester Caveny, John Schlitt, Lou Gold and John Crivello.

## October

A sizable contingent of apprentice carpenters was reported in training in the Salinas area. Carpenters 925 Business Mgr. Harvey Baldwin said the union was supervising the training of 35 apprentices.

Building Trades unions reported that construction work in the Monterey area had hit the highest level since the rush days of the early '40s when Fort Ord and other reservations were going up.

Monterey Plumbers 62 was host to 100 union officials and wives as the Northern California Council of Plumbers held a two-day meeting in Monterey. Assisted by Plumbers 503 of Salinas the union staged a full program of business and fun for the visitors and their wives.

For the first time in its history Culinary-Bartenders 483 was trying a system of union stewards to assist the business manager in handling of the union's problems.

Monterey Plumbers named new officers: Pres. Lloyd Long, Vice

Pres. John Phillips, Fin. Sec. Business Mgr. John Grisin, Rec. Sec. Paul Hazdavak, Executive Board Members Polly Palmer, Bob Graves, Carl Davis and Ed Silk.

There was so much business for Monterey Carpenters 1323, largely due to the influx of workers for various construction projects, that the union voted to meet weekly until further notice, instead of twice monthly, as formerly.

Most incumbents went back for two-year terms in the election of Monterey Fish Cannery Workers. The slate elected: Pres. Joe Perry Jr., Vice Pres. Tony Alves, Sec. Treas. Roy Humbracht, Bus. Agt. Lester A. Caveny, Rec. Sec. Shirley Williams, Sgt.-at-Arms Joe Freitas.

Busy burglars did a lot of work smashing into offices, desk, filing cabinets, etc., at the Salinas Labor Temple on a Friday night, but their earnings were small compared to the amount of work. The net take was less than \$10 in cash.

Salinas Culinary-Bartenders 355 members voted to raise their dues, effective Nov. 1, Sec.-Mgr. Alfred L. Clark reported. Dues for bartenders, cooks will go up \$1 per month; waitresses and miscellaneous workers will pay 50 cents more a month.

By referendum vote, members of Butchers 506 voted to increase their dues \$1 a month, first substantial dues increase in more than 20 years.

## November

A \$4 weekly pay increase for retail butchers employed in the Safeway, Purity, Lucky and other chain markets and in the independent markets was reported by Butchers 506 Sec. Earl A. Moorhead.

A very informative study of employment at the big PG&E steam plant at Moss Landing was made public by Electricians 243 of Salinas, who had jurisdiction. With the project rapidly nearing completion after four years of work, Bus. Mgr. Dial H. Miles reported a total of 740 electrical workers had worked on it at various times. Peak employment on any one day was 394 electricians. Most of the workers were from nearby locals but others were recruited from a total of 140 different IBEW locals in the U.S. and Alaska. Miles noted that other crafts had comparable numbers of men employed during the life of the project.

Monterey Plumbers 62 took on an office secretary, Marie Forster, to do some dispatching and assist Bus. Mgr. John Grisin.

Bettye Guild, office secretary of Monterey Teamsters 890, was married to Lloyd A. Day, Monterey radio and television store owner, but said she would continue working in the office.

Union painters and decorators in Salinas took on a job close to their hearts. They swarmed over the Salinas Labor Temple and completely repainted the interior and exterior within a couple of days.

Retroactive for almost six months, back to June 1, a 15 cent hourly pay increase for Salinas painters, members of Painters 1104, was approved by the WSB, making the scale \$2.57 an hour.

## December

A lengthy, bitter dispute over wages of laborers working as mason or brick tenders was successfully concluded with area Laborers locals getting a 15 cent hourly raise plus a health and welfare plan.

Labor supported Congressional Candidate Will Hayes announced he would not contest the final election results which showed him losing to incumbent E. K. Bramblett by 3000 votes. Initial results, before counting of absentee ballots, had shown the rivals only 600 votes apart. Alfred J. Clark, secretary-treasurer of the Monterey Central Labor Council, was official representative of organized labor at the counting of the absentee ballots.

With unions taking the lead, a

wave of protest swept Salinas against the request of the Salinas Sanitary Garbage Co. for a rate increase that would have "virtually doubled" the cost of garbage disposal. The Salinas city council scheduled, then postponed a hearing on the garbage rate. When the hearing time came, union leaders were there in full force, but the company withdrew its request for the increase.

First contract to be gained by Monterey Laborers 690 with the Del Monte Properties was signed and sent to the WSB for formal approval. Covered by the pact were about 40 forestry employees and watchmen employed by the firm. Wage rates were raised from \$1.27 to \$1.40 for the lowest paid workers, with a top scale of \$1.83.

Moving Picture Projectionists 611 returned incumbents to the key spots in its annual election. Officers for the year were: Pres. Paul Funchess, Vice Pres. George J. Smith, Rec. Sec. Joe A. Cain, Fin. Sec. H. E. Packard.

The Salinas Central Labor Council decided it was necessary to teach apprentices something about unionism as well as about their crafts. It voted a series of compulsory meetings of apprentices at which labor relations education would be given, with employer representatives invited and forum discussion afterward.

Renovation of the Salinas Labor Temple continued, with union tradesmen starting on structural remodeling, installation of new heaters, etc.

"Finest yet" was the verdict on the two big Christmas parties traditionally held here. So many kids came to the Annual Children's Christmas Party sponsored by Salinas AFL unions that the doors of the high school auditorium had to be closed at 7:30 p.m. and hundreds turned away. As it was, there weren't enough toys and candy for all of the more than 3,000 kiddies. Monterey Carpenters 1323 also held their annual Christmas blow-out, with motion pictures, choral singing, a visit by Santa Claus and distribution of some 1,500 stockings filled with candy, fruits and nuts.

(Continued on Next Page)

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# LOOKING BACK OVER THE YEAR

(Continued from Preceding Page)

## January

Butchers 506, in divisional elections, picked the following officers to serve in the year ahead: MONTEREY—Pres. Harold Burns, Vice Pres. Phil Moseley, Fin. Sec. Earl A. Moorhead, Rec. Sec. Mildred Schultz, Guide and Guard Bill Bolland, Executive Board—Ken Baker, Barney Davi and Barbara Mosely; SALINAS—Pres. Clerk Bannert, Fin. Sec. Earl A. Moorhead, Rec. Sec. William Gilbert, Guide and Guard Jerry Molinari, Executive Board—James Jacobson, Ray Artis, Kay Harris, Lee Milhollen, Jack Schaffer and Rudolph Mazzei.

A "plug board" to enable unemployed members to know where they stand in the order of job rotation without waiting around the hall all the time was installed by Salinas Laborers 272. Both this local and Monterey Laborers 690 were looking forward to very satisfactory employment on the basis of big contract let and just waiting for weather that would permit construction to begin.

The "sardine season" ended on Jan. 15 but nobody cared. No sardines at all had been caught in local waters and precious few along the entire coast. Monterey fishermen and fish canning plants kept busy with anchovies and with tuna.

Monterey Painters 272 negotiated a health and welfare plan, effective Aug. 1.

At least 1,000 pints of blood they knew about, and perhaps that much again that was not reported, had been donated by members of Salinas General Teamsters Local 890 since the union's blood bank started, Sec. - Treas. William G. Kenyon reported.

Over \$800 in funds for the American Heart Assn.'s fight against heart disease was raised at a Heart Fund dance in Monterey jointly sponsored by the Monterey Peninsula Labor Council, the Salinas Central Labor Council, and the Monterey County Building Trades Council.

The Salinas Central Labor Council arranged a special meeting so it could play host to six visiting Indonesians with a special interest in industrial matters. The visitors were taken on tours of the lettuce sheds and industrial plants and were dinner guests at the homes of various union members.

James Walker of Musicians 616 was named vice president of the Monterey Peninsula Labor Council to fill a vacancy.

## February

Mildred Hill, popular office manager of Monterey Carpenters, married Vincent Crivello, co-operator of a boat in the famous Monterey sardine fleet.

Approval of a six-cent hourly boost in Carpenters' wages for this area finally came through. The raise gave the local carpenters parity with San Francisco and Oakland.

Formation of a Blood Bank unit for Monterey Laborers 690 was announced by Sec. George Jenkins.

A severe windstorm beached seven boats of the Monterey fishing fleet, all of which were damaged badly. Other boats suffered some damage while riding out the storm but were able to make repairs during the "light of the moon" when there is no fishing.

## March

Officers of unions in the Salinas-Monterey area jointly undertook an organizing campaign in the construction field in King City. Some of the crafts there have their own unions, but most of the work is under jurisdiction of unions with headquarters in Salinas or Monterey.

A new Ladies Auxiliary was formed in Monterey, comprising the womenfolk of Monterey Carpenters 1323. The group elected Mrs. Lexie Grant Sheffield acting chairman and applied for a charter.

A special meeting of the Monterey Bay District Council of Carpenters approved the work of a special committee which revised the council's by-laws. Purpose of the change would be to establish a uniform code for all the unions and simplify the clearance of union members to jobs in any part of the area.

## April

An echo of the long dispute of Laborers 690 with Monterey brick contractors was heard when the union announced it was filing legal action against some of the contractors for failure to pay back wages under the contract negotiated for mason tenders.

M. O. Taylor, popular member of Salinas Laborers 272 and former executive board member, died suddenly. He succumbed while on his way home from work and died at the hospital.

An "experiment" with an Easter party for members turned out so successful that Monterey Laborers said they may make it an annual

institution. An overflow crowd of members and kiddies enjoyed the cartoon comedy program, puppet show, and the baskets of Easter goodies.

Burglars got a big haul when they entered the Monterey Labor Temple and ransacked various union offices. Total take was over \$700, most of it lost by Painters 272 who had considerable cash in a small safe that was smashed open.

## May

Irvin Kuenzli, American Federation of Teachers secretary-treasurer, addressed teachers of this area in a meeting at the Hartnell College library. Just returned from a world tour, he spoke on teachers' organizations in the various countries.

Monterey Carpenters had it easy—all they had to supply for the first pot luck supper of the new Ladies Auxiliary was the bread, butter and coffee. The women supplied the rest of the fancy viands that made it a memorable feast.

Twenty-three apprentices in 11 Monterey crafts who had completed their training period were presented with their certificates at the fifth annual "graduation" ceremonies of the Joint Apprenticeship Training Council.

Monterey Teachers Union 1020 elected the following to its top offices: Pres. John Lewis, Vice Pres. Dr. B. L. Borough, Treas. Keith McKillop, Rec. Sec. Mrs. Thelma Fox, Corres. Sec. Fred Clayton.

Two candidates supported by labor in Salinas were victorious in the election for the high school board of trustees. They were Dr. Edward Hirschberg and Ted Nelson.

Shedo ("Buck") Russo, incumbent Monterey councilman and well known member of Movie Projectionists 611, won re-election. Councilman Anthony Alves, also a union leader, failed to win.

## June

Robert Armstrong, who served Culinary-Bartenders 483 as a special organizer during the Del Monte Properties campaign, was named business agent of the union, succeeding Royal E. Hallmark, who resigned for reasons of health.

Monterey Laborers 690 retained nearly all of its incumbent officers without opposition in the annual elections. Heading the slate were Pres. Perry Luce and Sec.-Bus. Mgr. George E. Jenkins.

A new round of wage increases for the construction crafts started off with 10 cents won by the Carpenters and 10 cents for the Laborers in their mason tenders' agreement with the brick contractors. Biggest break-through was the 15 cents won by the Laborers for the general membership as a windup to the strike against the AGC and the latter's unsuccessful attempt to get a general construction lockout.

## JULY

Salinas Central Council names Dial Miles as president and Alfred J. Clerk, secretary.

County Building Trades Council elects Geo. Jenkins, president; Dial Miles, secretary.

Carpenters' District Council re-elects its officers, President Tom Eide and Secretary Leo Thiltgen.

Salinas Council float in Rodeo parade wins praise.

## AUGUST

Plumbers win 12½ cent wage hike.

Monterey Culinary Workers accept new contract.

Fish Cannery Union gets new contract.

Randolph Fenchel dies, a loss to labor.

## SEPTEMBER

Monterey Carpenters give Labor Day Barbecue.

Laborers 272 appeal for blood bank donors.

Machinists picket State Metal Fabricators.

## OCTOBER

Monterey Labor Council elects Russell Hansen as new secretary, succeeding Royal Hallmark.

State admits sardines are gone, hurts local canneries.

Monterey Laborers like benefits in welfare plan.

No work for carpenters in Monterey.

Salinas labor scholarship plan pressed.

Laborers urge safety on job.

## NOVEMBER

Laborers 690 gain lumber yard contract after four months.

Plumbers gain added welfare plan benefits.

Hotel workers gain new wage rate.

Monterey Laborers 690 will have Christmas party for children December 19.

Monterey and Salinas Carpenters join Building Trades Council.

## DECEMBER

Labor backs Hearst estate as memorial park, and state officials approve plan.

Salinas Christmas party of Central Labor Council gets started for Dec. 19.

Butchers gain new wholesale contract here, 5 per cent boost.

## AGC Northern Cal. Elects Officers

H. C. "Pat" Maginn, executive vice president of Calaveras Cement Company, was elected president of Northern California chapter of the AGC at an organizational meeting of the board of directors in San Francisco on Dec. 7.

Maginn was vice president last year and succeeds Dallas Young of San Francisco. E. L. Clements, owner of Clements & Co., of Hayward, was named vice president. Gordon Pollock, vice president of Geo. Pollock Co., of Sacramento, was named treasurer, succeeding Ben C. Gerwick.

Other new members of the board of directors include: William Smith, Felix Siri, and Edward Jones of San Francisco; Jack Burk of Oakland; U. B. Lee of San Leandro; Gordon Ball of Berkeley; William Rapp of Santa Rosa; Ralph Brown of Eureka; Charles Stewart of Fresno; John Delphia of Patterson, and Peter Schoening of Sacramento.

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His cheery smile and wide open grin,  
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I lost my job, I lost my car  
I can't even get near a bar  
I haven't eaten for days and days  
But for good old Ike I still have praise  
'Cause I like Ike.

I wouldn't believe in '52

When the union said it was true  
The bankers, bosses, and big money men  
Were using Ike to get power again.  
But what the hell, I was eating, see  
And besides, the "big shots" weren't after me  
I could have my cake and still make dough  
So let them chop at the Union ? ? ?  
'Cause I like Ike.

The first to go was overtime

Then they cut wages another dime  
And Ike, he said on his TV show  
It was patriotic to give up dough  
But the price of meat was still sky high  
And beans was all that a man could buy  
But he said it with such a cheery grin  
That I figured that's how it should have been  
So here I am more dead than alive  
But I like Ike.

My belly was full and my blood was 'hot'  
I had two chickens in every pot  
And Hoover was gone a long way back  
So I gave the elections a big wise crack  
It didn't matter about my vote  
Old Ike would never make me the goat  
But Brother,  
I'm eating grass on the range  
Because I was yelling "time for a change"  
'Cause I like Ike.

—ANONYMOUS.



## CARP. COUNCIL MEETS IN S.C.

Regular meeting of the Monterey Bay District Council of Carpenters was held last week in Santa Cruz, with Santa Cruz Carpenters Union 829 as guest.

Meeting of the council was held in the Santa Cruz Veterans Hall, where Local 829 now has headquarters. After the business meeting, delegates adjourned to Roundell's Restaurant for a dinner party.

Thomas Eide, council president, said business was almost entirely routine. Visitor was Jack Wagner, of Pile Drivers Union 34 of San Francisco, who spoke briefly.

Next meeting of the council is scheduled for Tuesday night, Jan. 12, at Carpenters Hall, 422 N. Main St., Salinas, with Salinas Carpenters Union 925 as host.

## Mont. Unionists Visit Watsonville

Two prominent Monterey labor union officials were in Watsonville last week, visiting with union officials at the Labor Temple and talking over mutual problems.

The officials, Robert Armstrong, secretary, and Jim Dunn, organizer and business representative, both of Monterey Culinary-Bartenders Union 483, visited with Mildred Rowe, secretary of Santa Cruz County Culinary-Bartenders Union 345, and Hazel K. Shireman, secretary of Watsonville labor council.

## Machinists Open S.C. Cement Pact

Members of the Machinists Union met at Santa Cruz IOOF Hall last week to talk over their contract at the Santa Cruz Cement Co. plant in Davenport.

Business Representative Earl Choate announced that the members voted to re-open the contract for new wages and improved conditions, but declined to state what union demands will be.

Monterey County

# Labor News

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1953

## Officials Study Sewer Project

Officials of various unions which will be involved in the coming sewerage project in the Alisal district of the Salinas area met with contractor representatives last week to discuss the work.

Gregory Construction Co. is contractor for the project.

Officials included Carl Jones, of Laborers 272; H. B. Baldwin, of Carpenters 925; Buck Hope, of Engineers 3; Glen Wilkerson, of Teamsters 890, and Dial H. Miles, secretary-representative of the County Building Trades Council.

New work for highway construction crews was started in the county last week as Gordon Ball, contractor, began resurfacing of three miles of Highway 101 from Chualar to Ganzalez.

## PG&E Office Closes Saturday

Offices of the Pacific Gas & Electric Co., will be closed on Saturdays, according to Manager T. E. Ward, effective January 2, in order that employees may gain a 5-day week. Persons needing service on Saturdays may call a company representative at 2-1574. Persons wishing to pay bills on Saturday may drop payments (plus bill) through the office door, or may make payments at John's Drug Store, Carmelo Drug Store, or Andy's Drug Store. Emergency services of the company are not affected by office closing.

Your union is as democratic as you make it—Attend meetings.

## Union and Firm Try New Approach To Layoff Problem

Boston (LPA)—An experiment in job finding for those about to be laid off is being tried by Stone and Webster Corporation and Local 105, American Federation of Technical Engineers.

An employee on his own initiative, by written request, may seek a job elsewhere for a minimum of eight weeks, a maximum of 26 weeks. His insurance benefits and seniority rights are maintained, he can return or be recalled on seven days' notice after the initial eight weeks of released time. If he becomes ill while on released time, he can, on request, be relieved of status as a released-time employee and gain the benefits of the contract. The program was initiated by the local, and the firm agreed.

## Baldwin, Miles On County Tour

Business Manager Harvey B. Baldwin of Salinas Carpenters Union 925 and Secretary-Business Agent Dial H. Miles of the Monterey County Building Trades Council made a tour of the southern part of the county last week.

The two officials traveled to King City, Bradley, Soledad and other points to check conditions for union workmen, and also to investigate reports of new work. They had no announcement regarding their findings.

## Eagles Plan Yule Party

Salinas Eagles Lodge 187 will have a party for members and their children on the evening of Tuesday, December 22, at Native Sons Hall, according to Jimmie Butler Jr., secretary of the lodge.

Butler, also secretary of Barbers Union 827, said many union members are in the fraternal order and will take part in the party for the youngsters. Eagles who have no youngsters of their own may bring other children as their guests, he added.

## Armstrong Attends City of Hope Meet

Robert Armstrong, secretary-business manager of Monterey Culinary-Bartenders Union 483, was in Los Angeles area last week to attend a special event at the City of Hope Hospital.

The International Union of Culinary Workers and Bartenders has donated money for a new wing at the tuberculosis and heart disease hospital. Armstrong was present for the official dedication of the new wing.

## Butchers 506 Elections On

Annual election of officers of Butchers Union 506 is being held in December and January, with separate elections for general and local district officers at all January meetings. Nominations are at meetings this month, according to Secretary Earl H. Moorhead.

## Clerks Repair Toys

Fresno, Calif. (LPA)—Members of Retail Clerks Local 1288 and Packing House Employees and Warehousemen's Local 616 are collecting discarded toys, repairing them, to be distributed to children of needy families at Christmas time.

Compensation for on-the-job injuries may depend on the speed and accuracy of the report which you must make.



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